

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraphs [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] According to a first aspect of the invention, A wafer boat preform comprises a wafer boat preform formed of a boat fabrication material selected from a the group consisting of silicon, silicon compound comprising at least one silicon atom and in which silicon is a majority, silicon and germanium, $\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x}$ $\text{Si}_{x1}\text{Ge}_{1-x1}$ solid solution, wherein $0 \leq X1 \leq 1$, silicon and Silicon Carbide $\text{Si}_x(\text{SiC})_{1-x}$, silicon and silicon carbide wherein silicon is a majority ~~$\text{Si}_{x2}(\text{SiC})_{1-x2}$, wherein~~ $0.3 \leq X2 \leq 1$, silicon and silicon dioxide $\text{Si}_{x3}(\text{SiO}_2)_{1-x3}$ $\text{Si}_x(\text{SiO}_2)_{1-x}$, wherein $0 < X3 < 1$, silicon and any a ceramic and in which silicon is the majority material, silicon and any an oxide $\text{Si}_{x4}(\text{Oxide})_{1-x4}$ $\text{Si}_x(\text{Oxide})_{1-x}$, wherein $0 \leq X4 \leq 1$, silicon and any a metal $\text{Si}_{x5}\text{M}_{1-x5}$ $\text{Si}_x\text{M}_{1-x}$, wherein $0 \leq X5 \leq 1$, silicon and any a metal alloy $\text{Si}_{x6}\text{A}_{1-x6}$ $\text{Si}_x\text{A}_{1-x}$, wherein $0 \leq X5 \leq 1$, and any combinations thereof.

Please replace paragraphs [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] According to another aspect of the present invention, a process for fabrication of water boat preforms comprises providing a boat fabrication material selected from a the group consisting of silicon, silicon and germanium, $\text{Si}_{x1}\text{Ge}_{1-x1}$ solid solution, wherein $0 \leq X1 \leq 1$, silicon and silicon carbide wherein silicon is a majority ~~$\text{Si}_{x2}(\text{SiC})_{1-x2}$, wherein~~ $0.3 \leq X2 \leq 1$, silicon and silicon dioxide $\text{Si}_{x3}(\text{SiO}_2)_{1-x3}$, wherein $0 < X3 < 1$, silicon and a ceramic and in which silicon is the majority material, silicon and an oxide $\text{Si}_{x4}(\text{Oxide})_{1-x4}$, wherein $0 \leq X4 \leq 1$, silicon and a metal $\text{Si}_{x5}\text{M}_{1-x5}$, wherein $0 \leq X5 \leq 1$, silicon and a metal alloy $\text{Si}_{x6}\text{A}_{1-x6}$, wherein $0 \leq X5 \leq 1$, and combinations thereof, and forming a wafer boat preform from the boat fabrication material.

Please replace paragraphs [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] According to yet another aspect of the present invention, a process for fabrication of a member having the shape of a tube, a plate, or a rod, comprises providing a material selected from the group consisting of silicon, silicon and germanium, $\text{Si}_{x1}\text{Ge}_{1-x1}$ solid solution, wherein

$0 \leq X1 \leq 1$, silicon and silicon carbide $\text{Si}_{x2}(\text{SiC})_{1-x2}$, ~~wherein $0.3 \leq X2 \leq 1$~~ wherein silicon is a majority, silicon and silicon dioxide $\text{Si}_{x3}(\text{SiO}_2)_{1-x3}$, wherein $0 < X3 < 1$, silicon and a ceramic and in which silicon is the majority material, silicon and an oxide $\text{Si}_{x4}(\text{Oxide})_{1-x4}$, wherein $0 \leq X4 \leq 1$, silicon and a metal $\text{Si}_{x5}\text{M}_{1-x5}$, wherein $0 \leq X5 \leq 1$, silicon and a metal alloy $\text{Si}_{x6}\text{A}_{1-x6}$, wherein $0 \leq X5 \leq 1$, and combinations thereof, and forming a tube, a plate, or a rod from the material.